

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following roll call votes. Had I been present for them, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 233: S. 2981 To reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and for other purposes—on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill—NAY; Roll Call 234: Republican Motion to Recommit H.R. 3884 With Instructions—YEA; and Roll Call 235: H.R. 3884 MORE Act—NAY.

IN TRIBUTE TO EMILIO E. LOPEZ

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Emilio E. Lopez, an icon in the Hispanic community and the City of Milwaukee. He passed away on October 31, 2020. He was 70 years old. I offer my sincere condolences to Emilio's family and have them in my thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Lopez was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, and arrived in the U.S. at the age of 3. He grew up on Milwaukee's east side with his parents and siblings. He graduated from Lincoln High School in 1968 and was the Prom King. Emilio went on to graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and was president of the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity before attending law school. Soon after, he dutifully served as the Assistant District Attorney of Milwaukee and even ran for circuit court judge and alderman; paving the way for future Latino candidates.

Realizing he wanted to work outside the confines of the courtroom, Emilio went on to empower thousands of youth in the community. Some of his notable achievements include his work as the Athletic Director of the United Community Center (UCC). He encouraged youths to stay off the streets by hosting late night basketball games and mentoring. His hard work was instrumental in the implementation of youth and drug rehabilitation programs for the Latino Community.

Emilio was also an educator and worked as the Principal of Aurora Weier Educational Center, a high school serving high risk students. He raised significant funds to renovate the former city natatorium into new classrooms, a new gymnasium, and science lab. He was President and Founder of the Felix Mantilla Little League, where he coached youths. He also served as the Associate Executive Director at the Milwaukee Christian Center (MCC) for a number of years. In his spare time, he dedicated his time to the Milwaukee Chapter of the National Latino Peace Officer Association. He was a true Milwaukee treasure and above all he was a devout husband, loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, relative and friend to many in Milwaukee.

Emilio lived a purposeful life, one of service dedicated to his community as an advocate

and leader to countless Hispanic and Latino families on Milwaukee's Southside. Emilio's positive impact and generosity knew no bounds; he was well known and respected throughout our city and was recognized as Hispanic Man of the Year in 1992 for his contributions to the community.

I am pleased to say I had the pleasure to work closely with Emilio when he served as Associate Director at the MCC and led the federally funded Youthbuild Program. He was a true Milwaukee treasure and we are all benefactors.

Madam Speaker, Emilio E. Lopez was a valued member of the Milwaukee community, the 4th Congressional District, and the entire State of Wisconsin. I applaud and value his contributions as a public servant and am pleased to honor the late Emilio E. Lopez.

HONORING MAYOR BOB SAMPAYAN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Bob Sampayan in honor of the impact he had on the community of Vallejo, California during his tenure as mayor and his achievements as a public servant.

Raised in Salinas, California, Mayor Sampayan graduated from San Jose State University with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. He worked as a police officer in Salinas and Palo Alto before joining the Vallejo Police Department in 1985. After 27 years as a Vallejo police officer, Mayor Sampayan retired as a Sergeant to join a local non-profit, overseeing several neighborhood revitalization projects. In 2011, he returned to public service after being elected to the Vallejo City Council, where he served for four years before being elected in 2016 as the first Filipino American to serve as Mayor in the City of Vallejo.

Mayor Sampayan has had a significant impact during his years of public service. His work on the council has been vital to the development and improvement of Mare Island. While on the City Council, he also played a key role in Vallejo's financial recovery from bankruptcy and worked to create economic stability for the City. As Mayor, he has overseen an annual budget reserve of nearly \$1 million, ensuring Vallejo's fiscal wellbeing in the years to come. He has also fought for solutions to the housing crisis and to improve homelessness in Vallejo, successfully securing over \$7 million in funding to create a resource center for the unsheltered. Mayor Sampayan has been a fierce advocate of sustainable growth and development for the City, and his leadership and dedication have undoubtedly been an inspiration to those who have known him.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Sampayan is a committed public servant and outstanding leader who has dedicated his life to serving his community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

HONORING LIEUTENANT
COMMANDER JAMES LYONS**HON. STEVE SCALISE**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Lieutenant Commander James Lyons for his faithful service to our country as an esteemed member of the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs in the U.S. House of Representatives. In this capacity, Lieutenant Commander Lyons facilitated interaction between the Department of the Navy and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives. These engagements included, but were not limited to, formal responses to congressional inquiries, counsel to Members and staff, and execution of congressional and staff delegations. These interactions were pivotal in providing Members and staff a greater understanding of the issues facing our Navy and its sailors.

I am particularly proud to note that Lieutenant Commander Lyons planned and executed CODEL Scalise to the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility to visit key U.S. allies in Central and South America in order to update Members on the role of China in the region, bilateral trade and regional trading relationships, and the role of U.S. military, security, and humanitarian aid in improving regional stability and preserving our relationships in the AOR. I am forever grateful for his leadership, persistence, and support of CODEL Scalise.

Lieutenant Lyons' distinguished career began after commissioning in the U.S. Navy from the George Washington University. After completing flight training in Pensacola, FL and Meridian, MS, Lieutenant Commander Lyons received his Wings of Gold and was assigned to Fleet Logistics Support Squadron Thirty to fly the venerable C-2 Greyhound. During his time as a "Provider", James deployed to 4th Fleet area of operations, logged 1000 flight hours, completed 89 carrier arrested landings and was named 2017 Pacific Fleet Greyhound Pilot of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I commend and thank Lieutenant Commander James Lyons on his service to the United States of America, the House of Representatives, and my office. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing him today.

HONORING YING TANG

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Ying C. Tang, who passed away on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, at the age of 92. Ying was a legend among us, part of the greatest generation who answered the call of duty and valiantly served his country to protect American values at home and abroad. In recognition of his bravery, patriotism, and commitment to preserving our liberty, Ying was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal—the highest civilian recognition granted by Congress. Ying's life embodied the greatest ideals of our nation, and